Koran teachers.

301. *MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there are Koranic Instructors in all the special Muslim Schools for Girls at present;

(*b*) if not, why; and

(*c*) whether any endeavour is being made by the Department to reduce the number of the unrecognised Koranic schools called Maktabs ?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*) : (*a*) There are Arabic Munshies in Special Muslim Schools for Girls under Departmental management, and Koranic Instructors in such schools under private management.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*) of the question, this does not arise.

(*c*) Yes.

Reduction of the import duty on Ceylon cocoanuts, copra and oil.

302. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there is reduction of import duty for Ceylon cocoanuts, copra and cocoanut oil ;

(*b*) the amount of reduction ;

(*c*) the amount of import duty for 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1934, respectively ;

(*d*) the cause for the said reduction ; and

(*e*) who is responsible for the reduction ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : (*a*) Yes, in respect of duty on copra and cocoanut oil, but no reduction in the duty on cocoanuts.

(*b*) In the case of copra, it would come to 3 annas, 2 pies per cwt., and in that of cocoanut oil to 12 annas per cwt.

(*c*) A *statement showing the amount of import duty for cocoanuts, copra and cocoanut oil during the years 1928 to 1934 is placed on the table.

(*d*) The reduction in duty is due primarily to the reduction of the tariff values of the articles in question and partly also to the reduction in the rate of duty.

(*e*) The duty is fixed by the Government of India.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know from what time the tariff value has been fixed ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : Tariff value is revised every year. The latest value is that fixed at the commencement of the year 1934.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : What is the import tariff value of copra in British India now ?

*Vide Appendix II.

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